prox, 28.50 MMSCMD and 44.00 MMSC MD of gas has been allocated to various fertilizer and power units respectively.

2978. *[Transferred to the 17th Decem ber,* 1991]

Supply of LPG cyli nder by Balramji Gas Agency, Fatehgarh, Uttar Pradesh

2979. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the name of the person to whom and the category under which gas agency in Fatehgarh, district Farukhabad, Uttar Pradesh was allotted together with the date of allotment;

(b) whether it is a fact that under the arrangements made by the Agency, the consumers are required to collect gas cylinders from the godowns of the above agency inspite of the provision for home delivery of LPG cylinders; and

(c) what are the details of complaints received against the above agency during the last three years and the action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) M/s. Balramji Gas Agency in Fatehgarh, District Farukhabad, Uttar Pradesh has been allotted under Physically handicapped category on 3-7-84.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) A statement is attached.

Cost of Production of Gas

2980. SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY.
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 606 given 675 RS—8 in the Rajya Shab on the 27th November, 1991 and state:

(a) what are the details of the long range marginal cost of production of gas formula;

(b) whether this formula covers new investments in oil and gas fields;

(c) what is the profit margin provided in the formula;

(d) what is the price of 1000 CMS gas in India, the USA, the USSR and in South Asian countries; and

(e) what formula these countries follow in working out gas prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The long range marginal cost measures the changes in long run total cost per unit change in output.

(d) While in India the prices vary between Rs. 500 to 2250, in USA they were in the range of Rs. 1485 to 2511 per 1000 cubic meters as of June 1991. The USSR border price was 2263/1000 cubic meters as of November 1991. In Korea and Japan, as of May 1991 the prices were Rs. 3359 and 4092/1000 cubic meters respectively.

(e) Different countries use different formula for pricing gas but generally the guiding economic principle is the long range marginal cost of production.

Oil Exploration Policy

2981. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA; Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revise the current oil exploration policy;

(b) whether it is a fact that the existing policy for oil exploration has not yielded any positive results;